Archie
ADVENTURE SERIES
NO.51 OCT.
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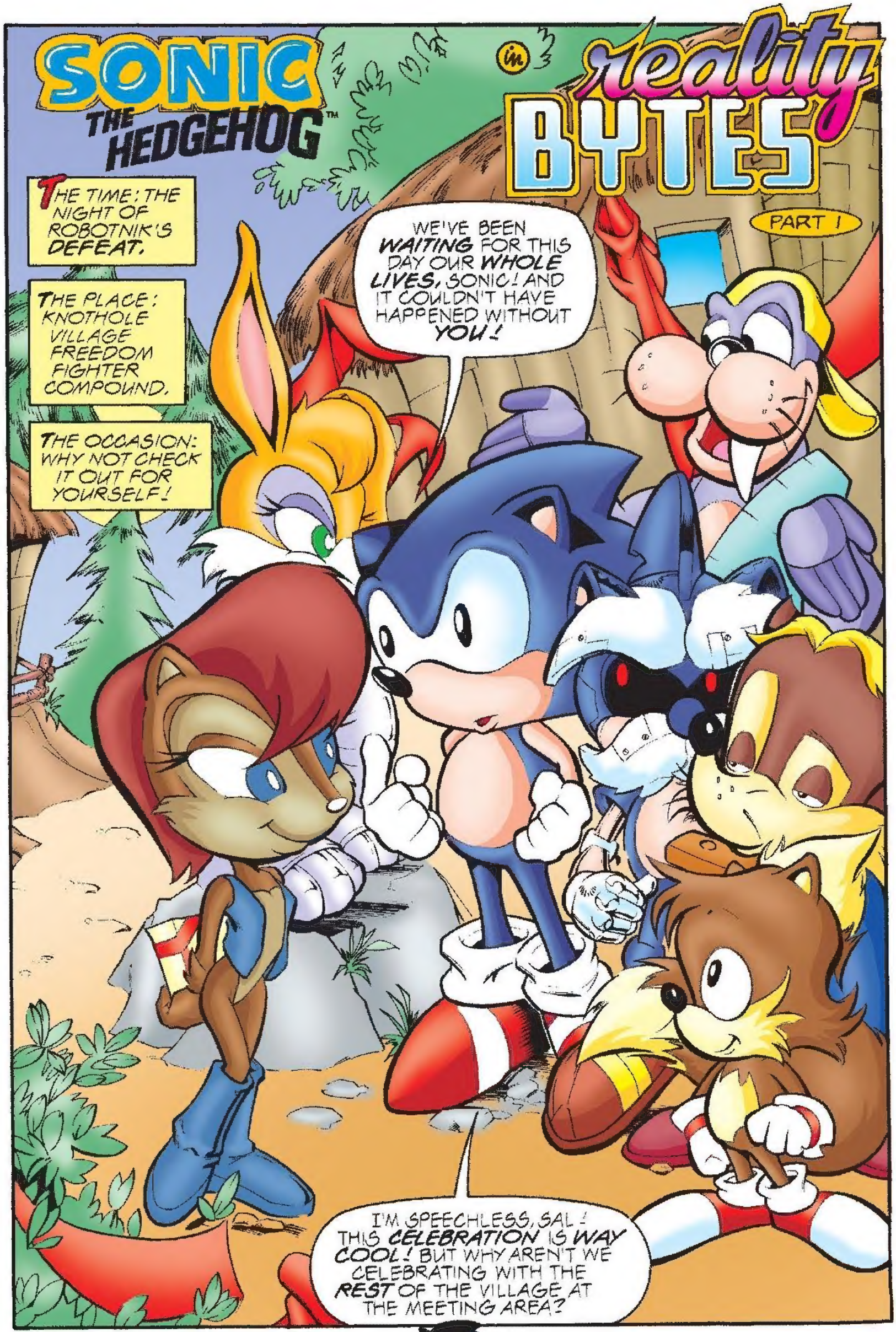
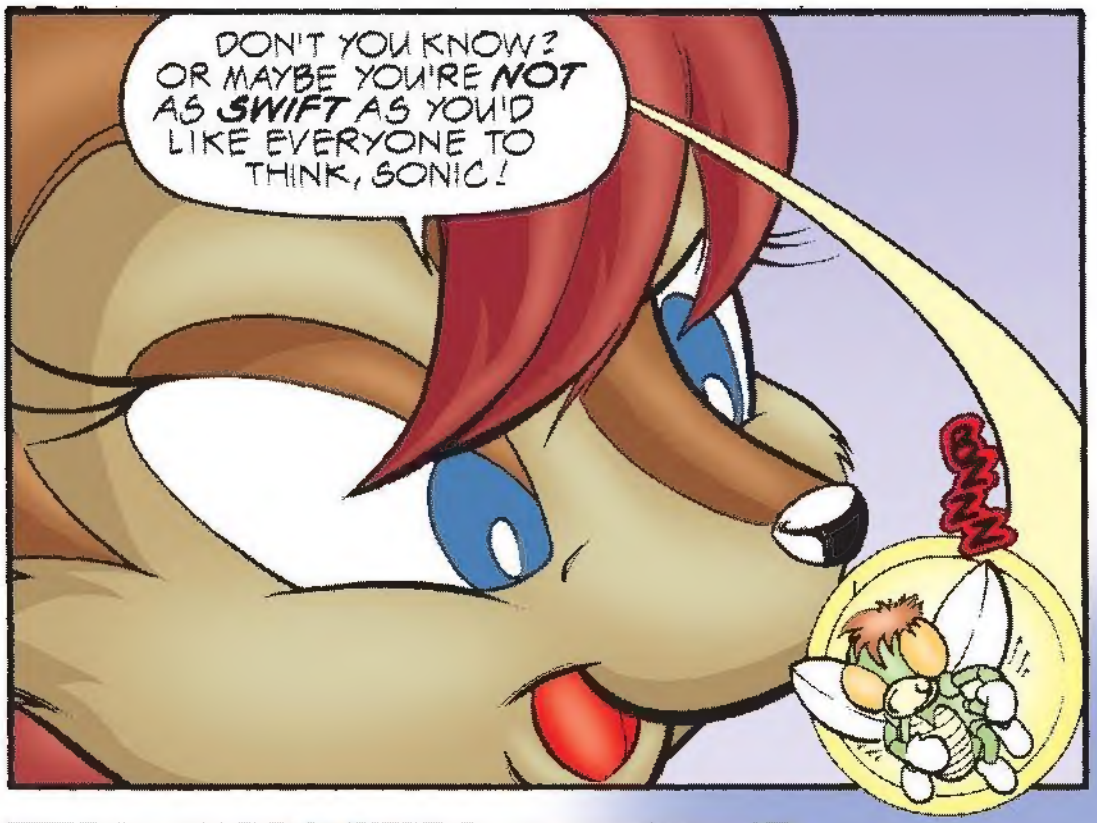
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
VICTORY!
SPAZ HARVO

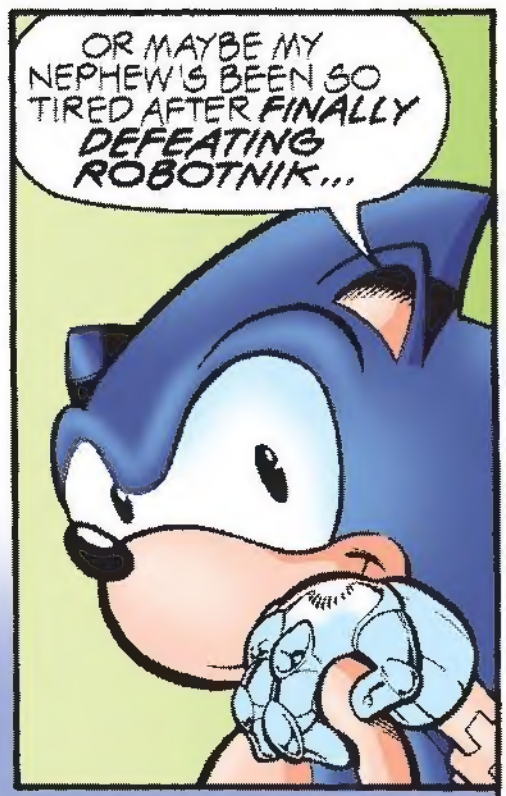
The planet Mobius was like a paradise... until the evil Doctor Robotnik and his mechanical legions conquered the land and its people, using his knowledge of technology and pollution. But many young, courageous citizens banded together as a brave group of "Freedom Fighters!" They struggle to overthrow the dictator and, one day, regain what was once theirs. Among them, the greatest of the Freedom Fighters is the fastest and way-coolest dude on two feet... SONIC The HEDGEHOG!

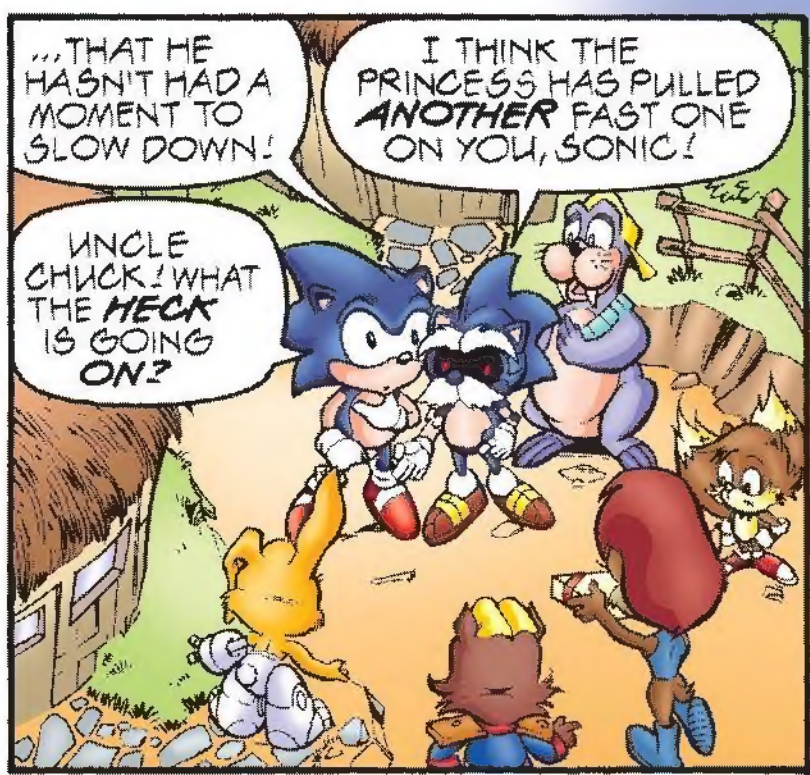
But now, with Robotnik's seeming demise, the freedom-fighting band of 'bot-kicking rebels who brought an end to his tyrannical reign of techno-terror can finally enjoy a long-awaited peace... or can they? Read closely, speed freaks, 'cause only Sonic The Hedgehog can answer that question for you!

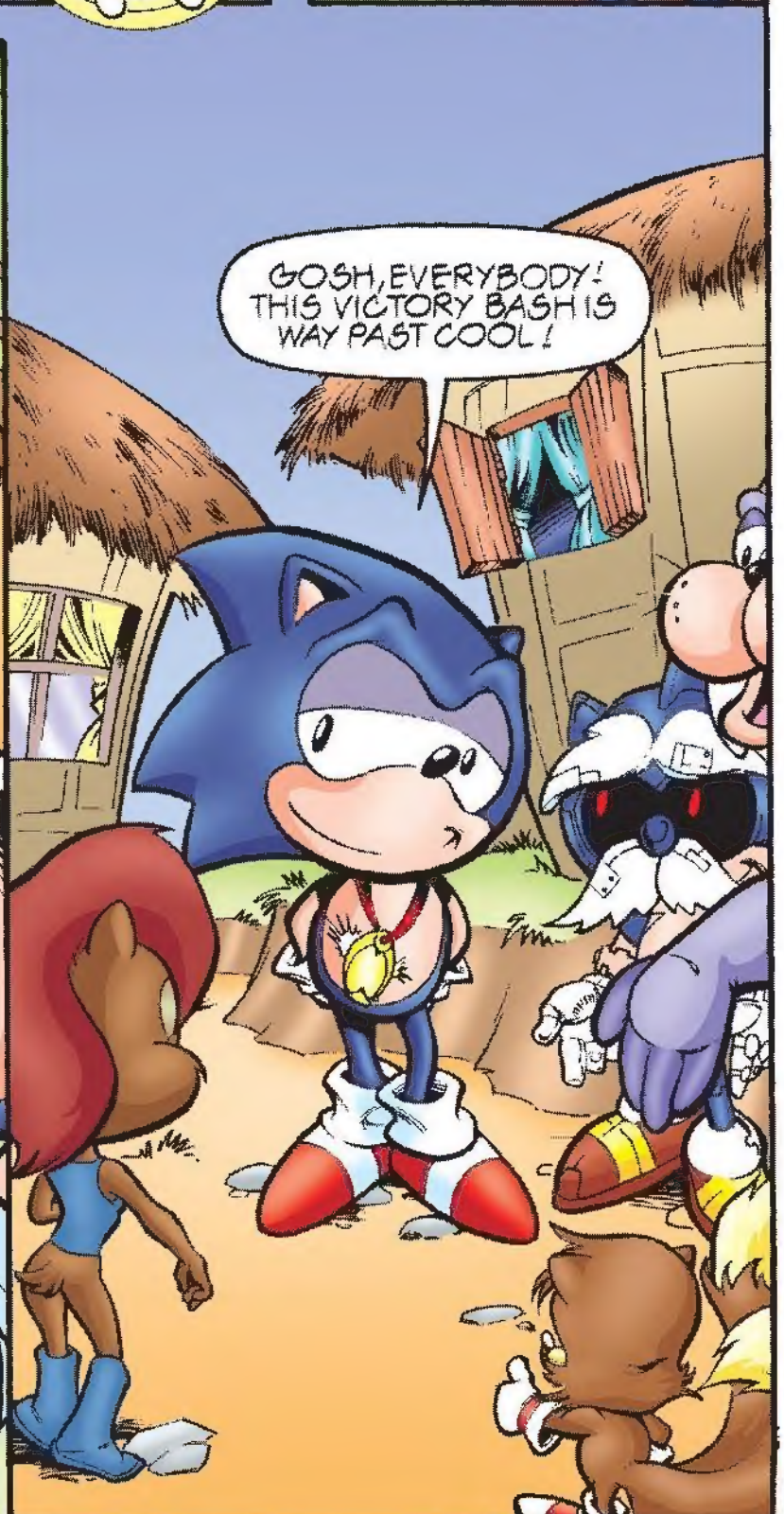
The celebration is already underway ! Let's join the Freedom Fighters as they corner Sonic away from the other villagers...


SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™
in
reality BYTES
PART 1
THE TIME: THE NIGHT OF ROBOTNIK'S DEFEAT.
THE PLACE: KNOTHOLE VILLAGE FREEDOM FIGHTER COMPOUND.
THE OCCASION: WHY NOT CHECK IT OUT FOR YOURSELF!
WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS DAY OUR WHOLE LIVES, SONIC! AND IT COULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED WITHOUT YOU!
I'M SPEECHLESS, SAL! THIS CELEBRATION IS WAY COOL! BUT WHY AREN'T WE CELEBRATING WITH THE REST OF THE VILLAGE AT THE MEETING AREA?


DON'T YOU KNOW? OR MAYBE YOU'RE NOT AS SWIFT AS YOU'D LIKE EVERYONE TO THINK, SONIC!
BZZZ

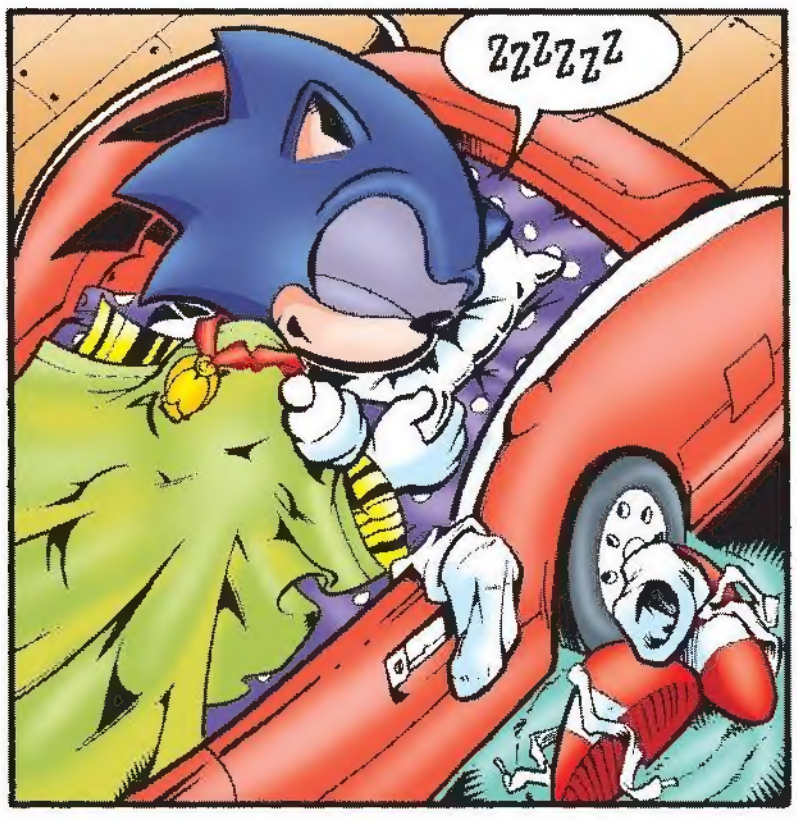

OR MAYBE MY NEPHEW'S BEEN SO TIRED AFTER FINALLY DEFEATING ROBOTNIK...

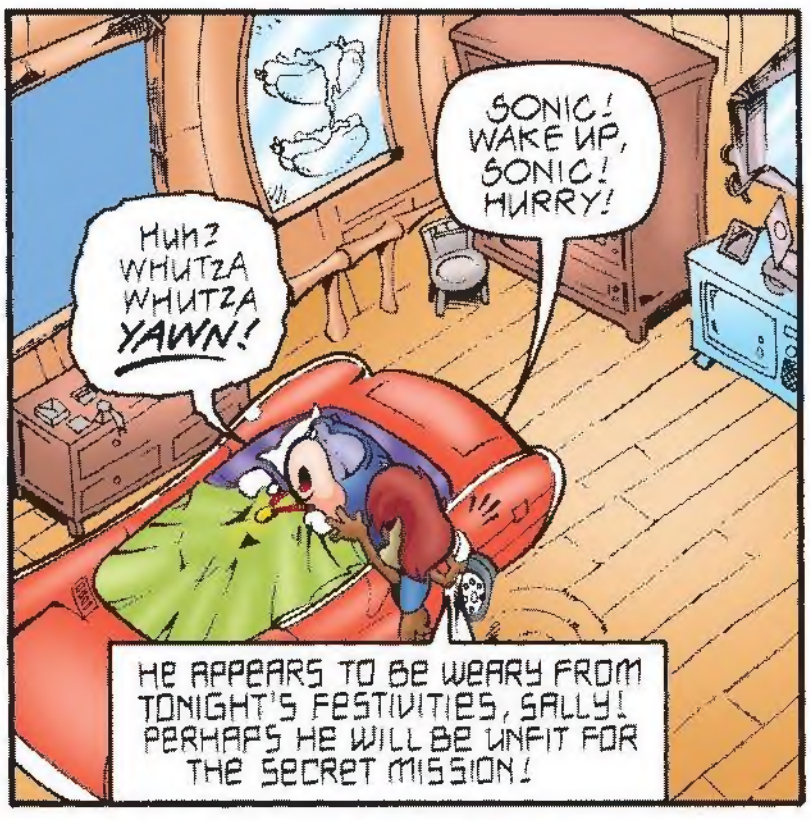

...THAT HE HASN'T HAD A MOMENT TO SLOW DOWN!
I THINK THE PRINCESS HAS PULLED ANOTHER FAST ONE ON YOU, SONIC!
UNCLE CHUCK! WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON?


GOSH, EVERYBODY! THIS VICTORY BASH IS WAY PAST COOL!

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, FOR YOUR OUTSTANDING BRAVERY, BOLD COURAGE AND STRONG LEADERSHIP...
...THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS...
...AWARD YOU!
SONIC

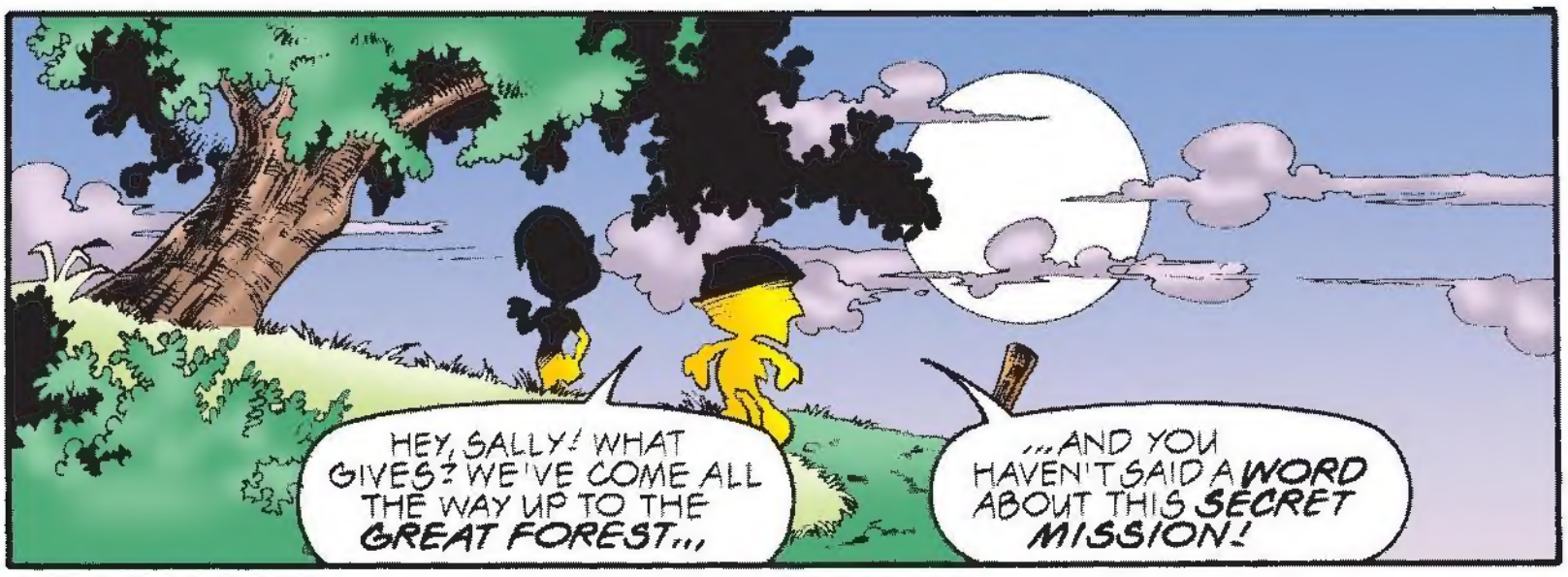
LATER, THAT NIGHT...


ZZZZZZ


SONIC! WAKE UP, SONIC! HURRY!
HUH? WHUTZA WHUTZA YAWN!
HE APPEARS TO BE WEARY FROM TONIGHT'S FESTIVITIES, SALLY! PERHAPS HE WILL BE UNFIT FOR THE SECRET MISSION!

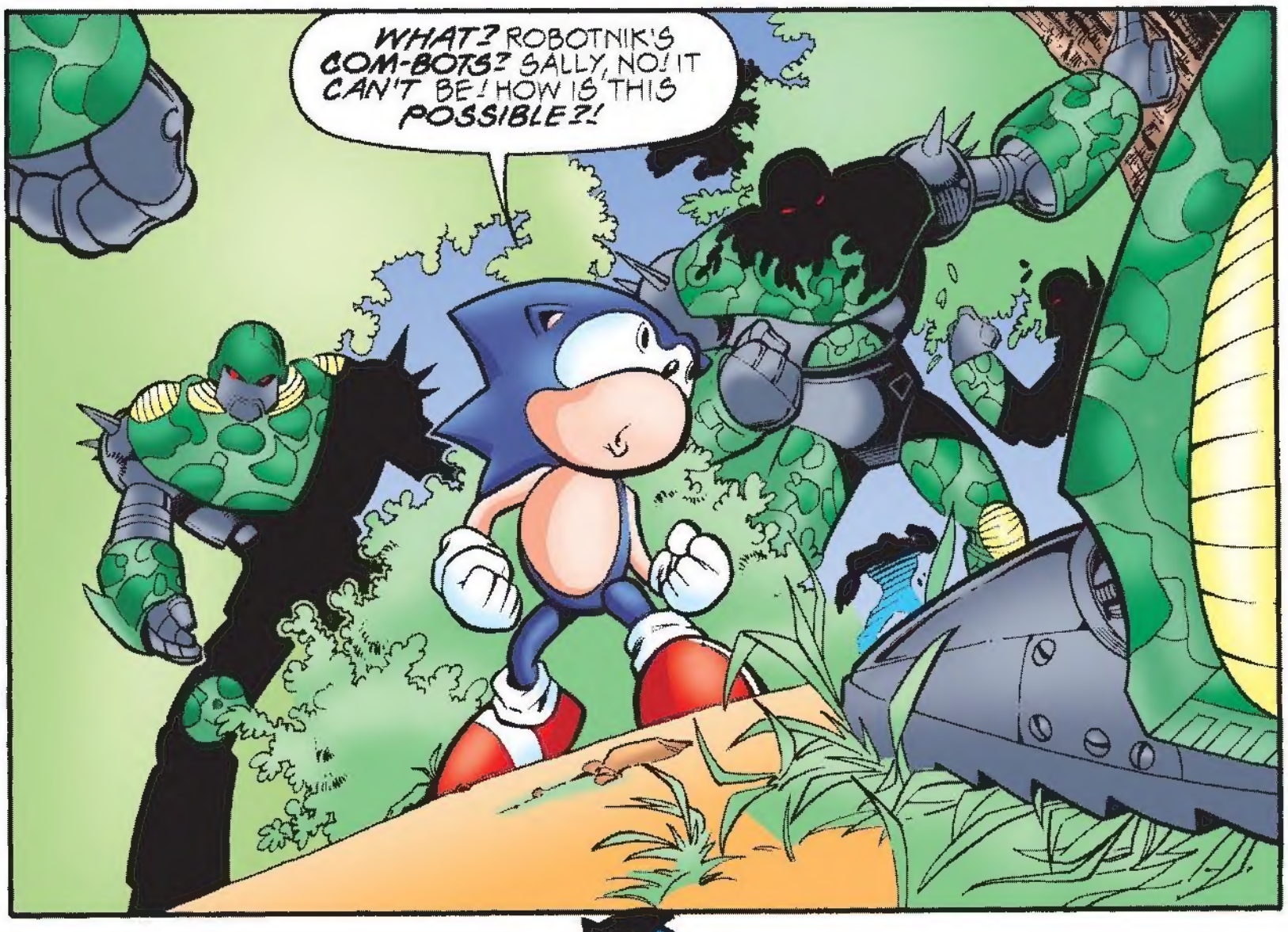
SECRET MISSION? WHAT'S GOING ON, SAL?

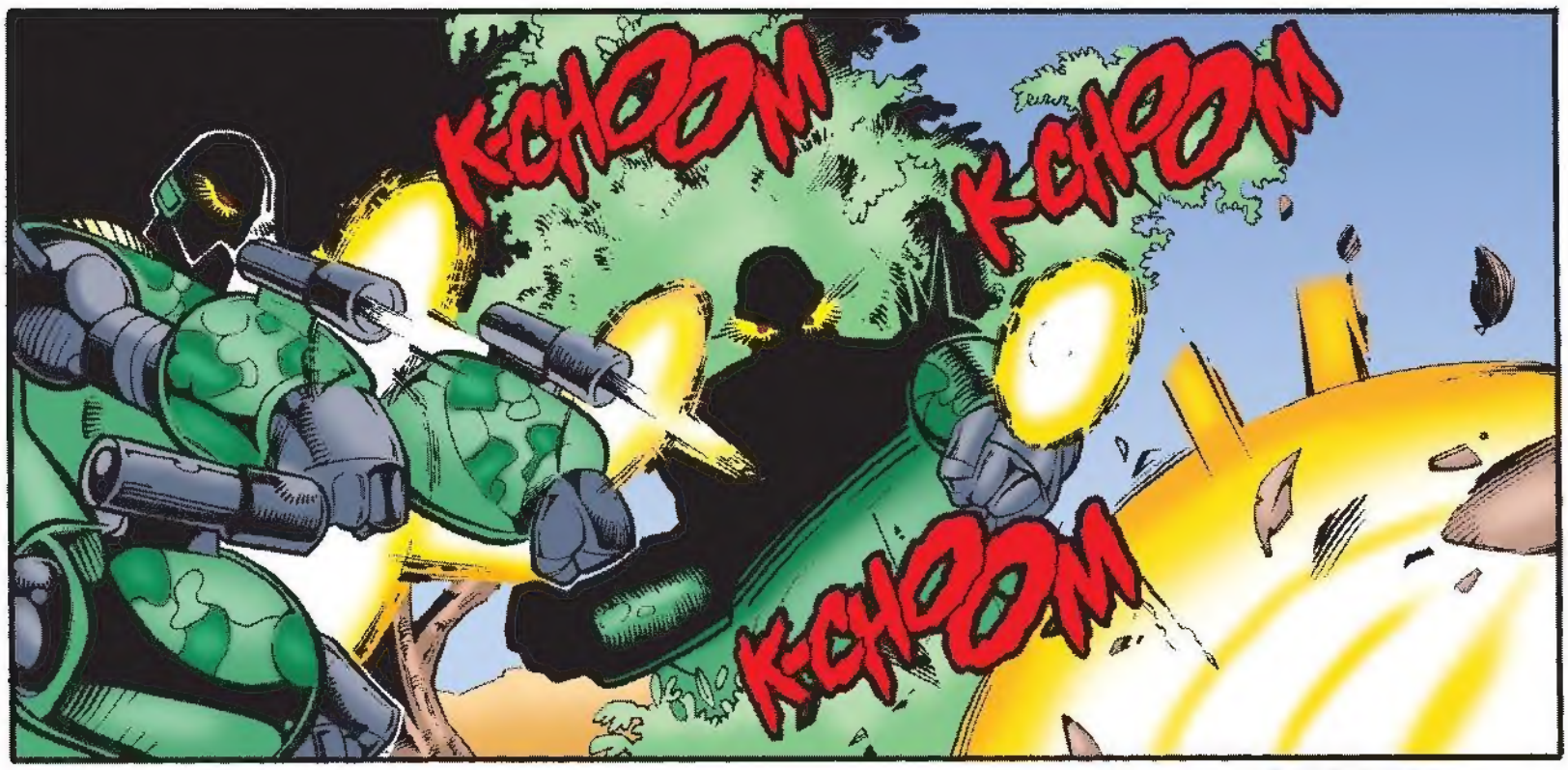
Shhh! LIKE NICOLE SAID, IT'S A SECRET! COME ON!


HEY, SALLY! WHAT GIVES? WE'VE COME ALL THE WAY UP TO THE GREAT FOREST...
...AND YOU HAVEN'T SAID A WORD ABOUT THIS SECRET MISSION!

THIS TOTALLY ISN'T LIKE YOU. WHY SO HUSH HUSH? JUST WHAT IS THE SECRET?

THE SECRET IS THAT YOUR SECRET MISSION ISN'T SO SECRET AFTER ALL, YOU FOOL!


WHAT? ROBOTNIK'S COM-BOTS? SALLY, NO! IT CAN'T BE! HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?!



THROUGH!

COMING

OUT!

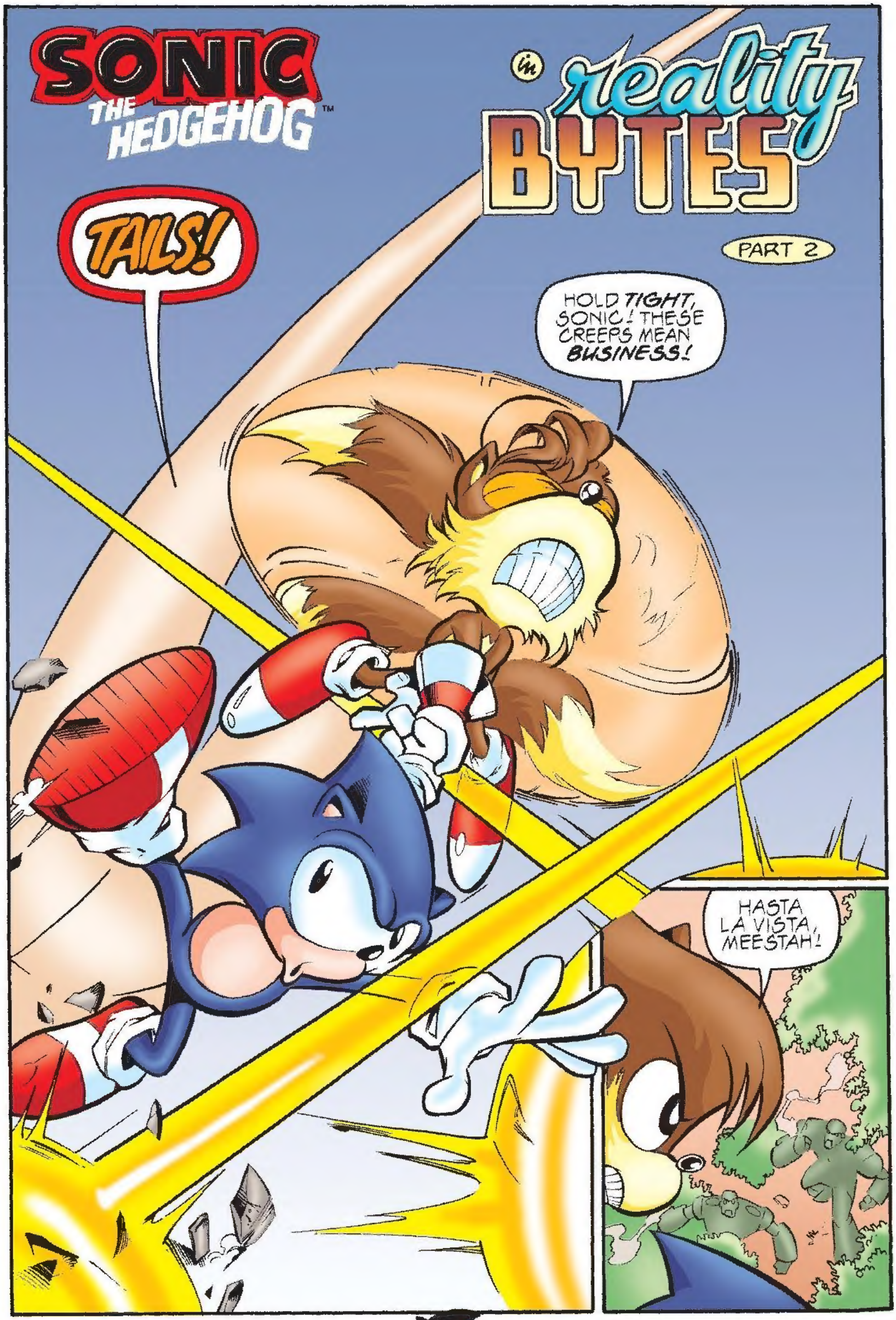
LOOK

TELL THEM! TELL THEM ALL! NO ONE CAN HEAR YOU, SONIC! SOON, KNOT-HOLE WILL BELONG TO DR. ROBOTNIK!

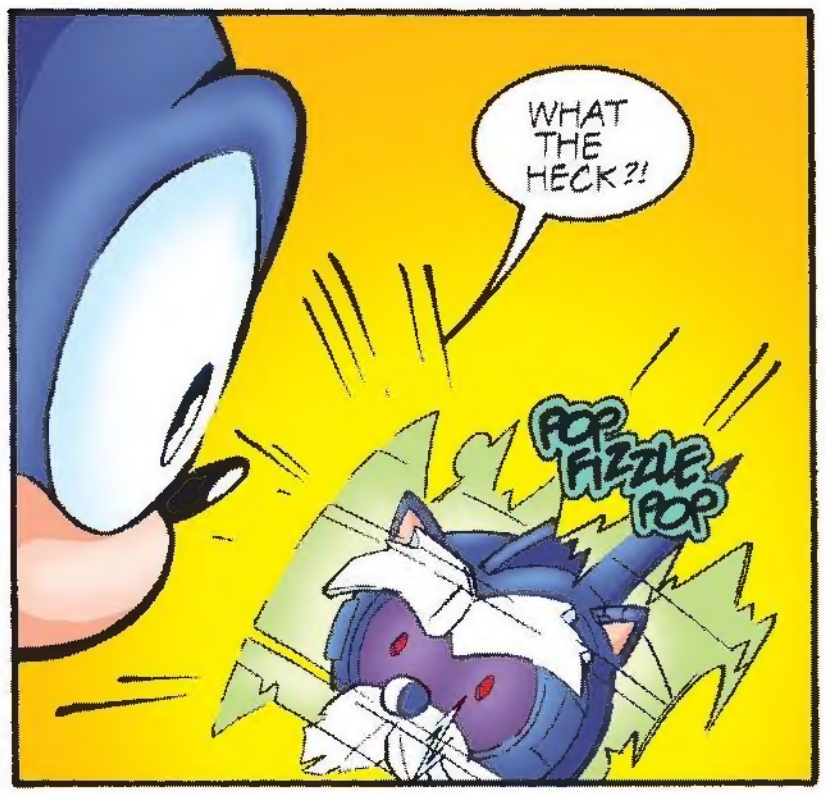
Huh?... BUT ROBOTNIK'S GONE!

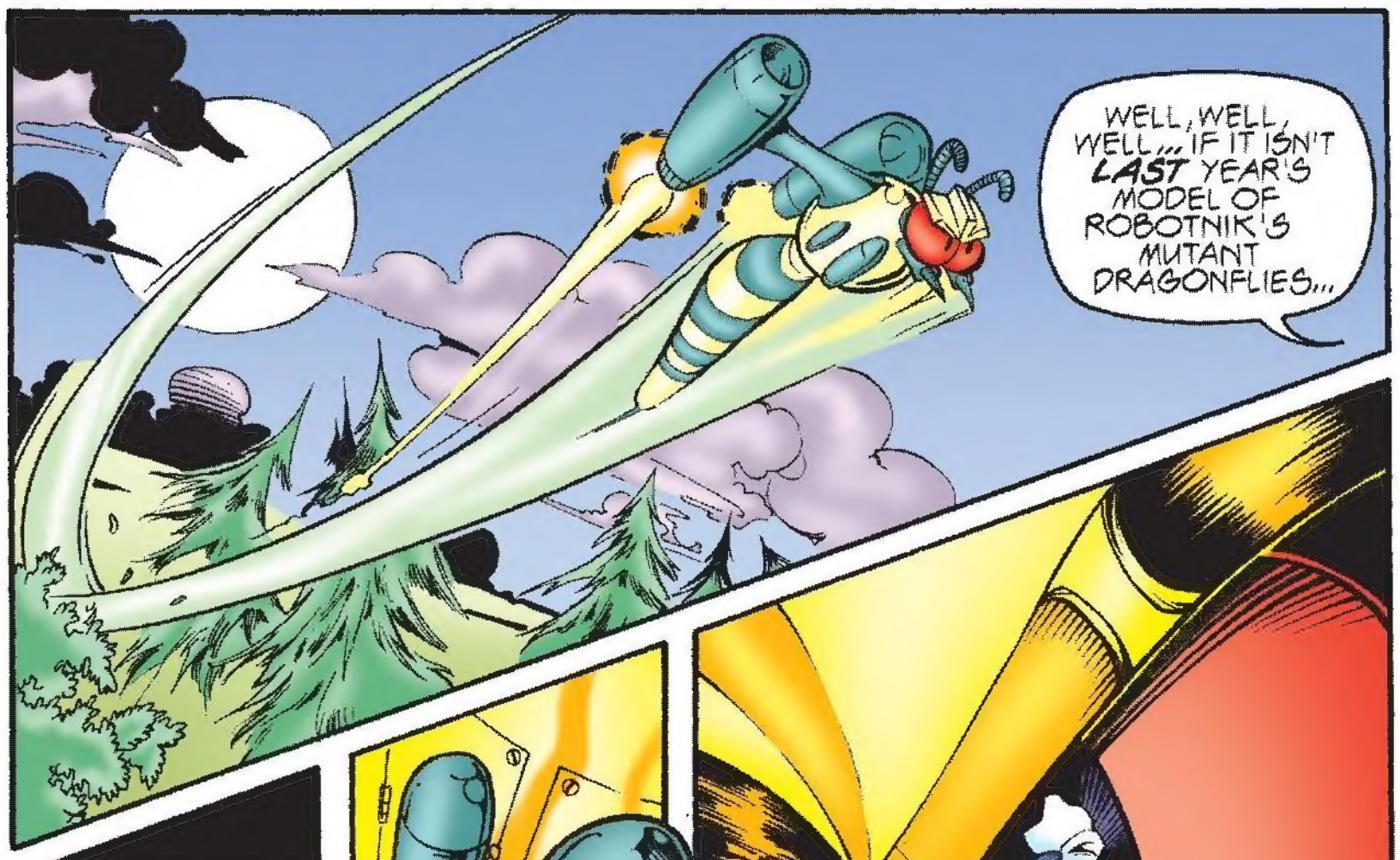
I MAY NOT COMPREHEND ANY OF THIS, BUT I STILL BETTER WARN THE OTHERS!

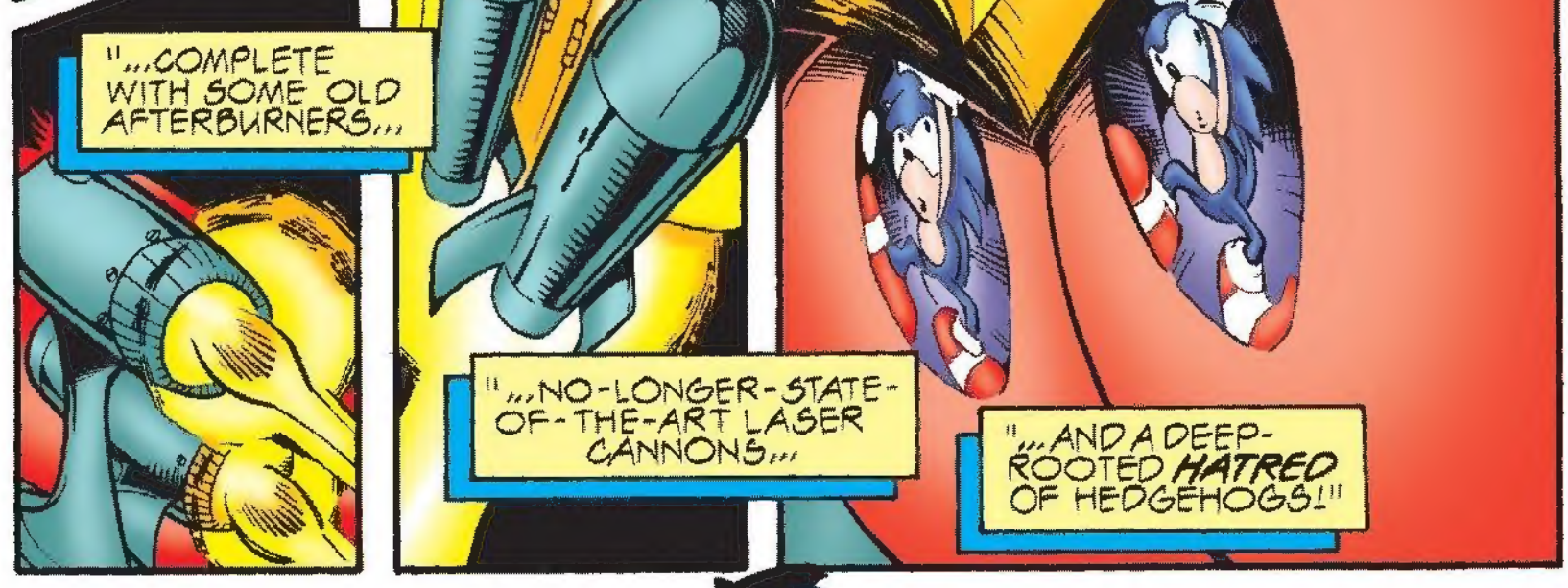
AFTER HIM!


SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™
in reality BYTES
PART 2
TAILS!
HOLD TIGHT, SONIC! THESE CREEPS MEAN BUSINESS!
HASTA LA VISTA, MEESTAH!

THE BAD NEWS IS SOMEONE'S TAKEN OVER OL' ROBUTTNIK'S SPOT AND ROBOTICIZED SALLY! THE WORSE NEWS IS THAT THEY'RE HEADED FOR KNOTHOLE!


WHAT THE HECK?!
POP FIZZLE POP


WELL, WELL, WELL... IF IT ISN'T LAST YEAR'S MODEL OF ROBOTNIK'S MUTANT DRAGONFLIES...


"...COMPLETE WITH SOME OLD AFTERBURNERS...
"...NO-LONGER-STATE-OF-THE-ART LASER CANNONS...
"...AND A DEEP-ROOTED HATRED OF HEDGEHOGS!"

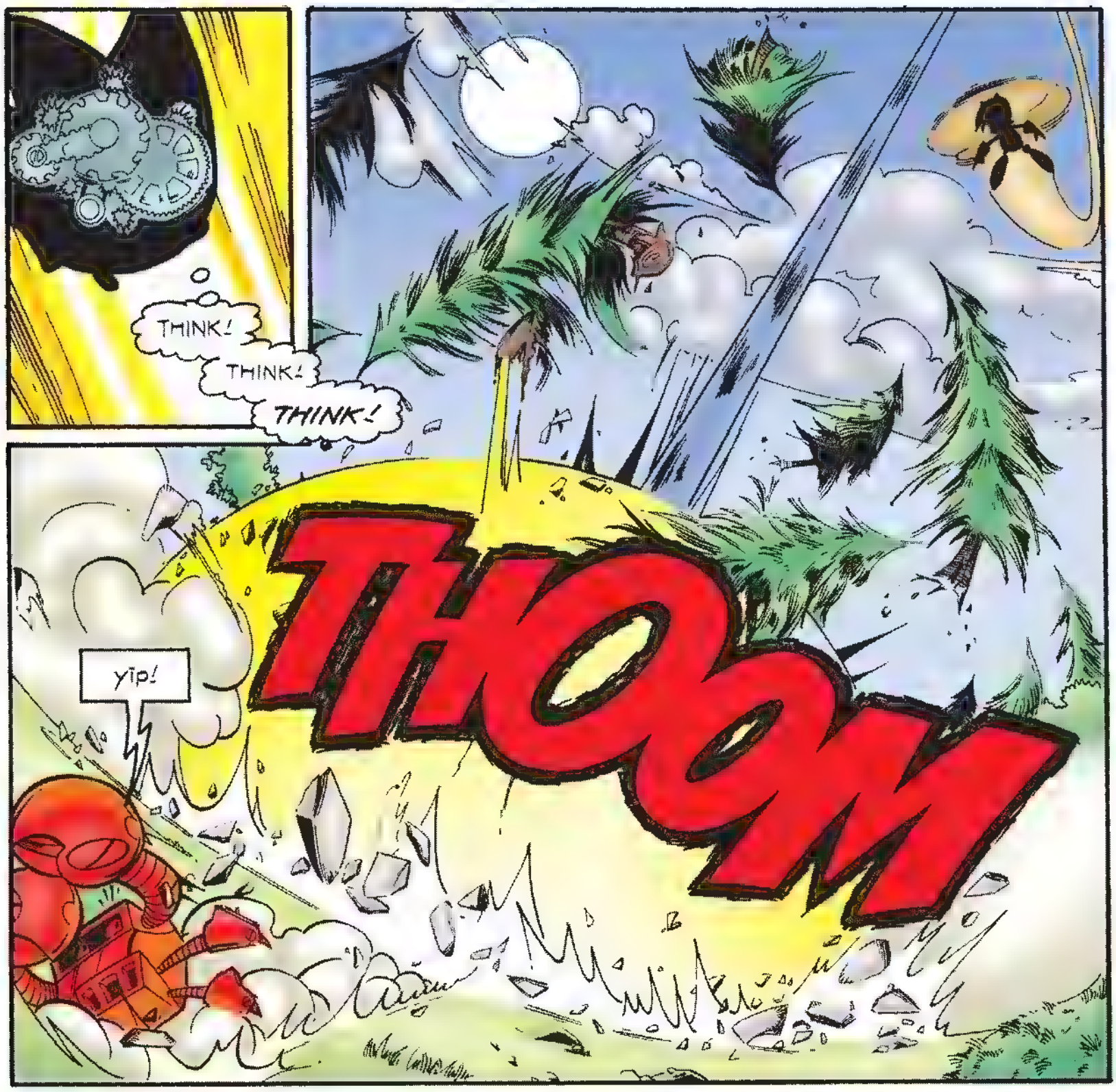
UH-OH, TAILS! LIKE, IT LOOKS LIKE **TROUBLE** ALWAYS COMES IN **TWOS**!

WRONG, SONIC. IN YOUR CASE...

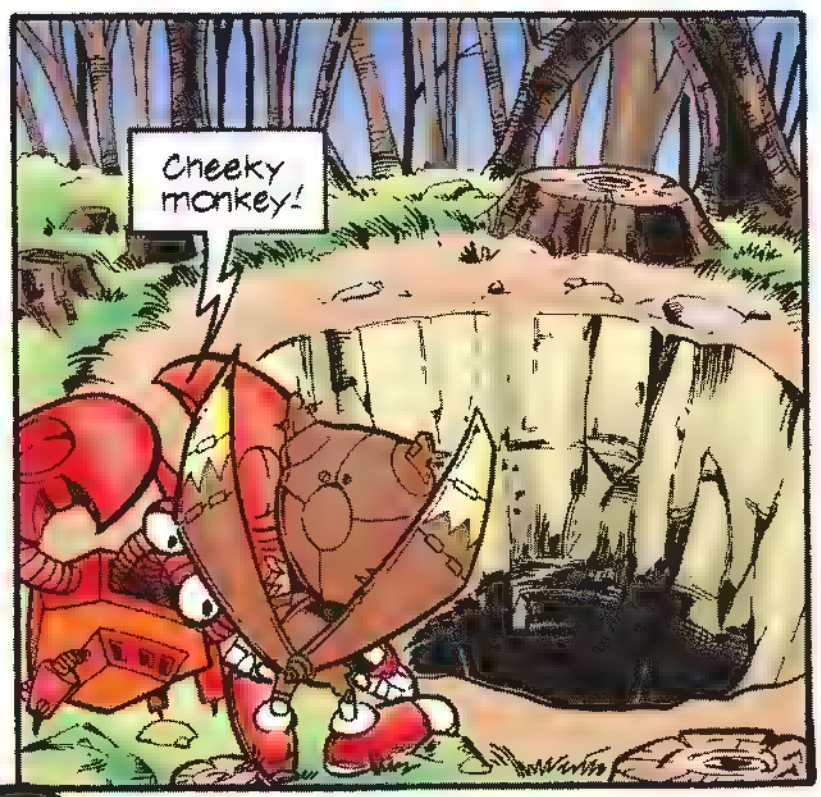
...IT COMES IN **THREES!**

TAILLLSSSSS!

GOTTA THINK **DOUBLE-TIME** OR ELSE I'M GONNA BECOME A BLUE **SPLAT** WITH WAY COOL SNEAKERS!


THINK!
THINK!
THINK!
THOOM
yip!

WHAT HAPPENED, CRABMEAT?! WHERE'D HE GO?!


Cheeky monkey!

SO THIS SOMEONE'S GOT TO TAILS TOO, Huh? WELL, THEY ALL FORGOT ABOUT THE OL' TRIPLE S!
AND AFTER ALL, UNDERGROUND IS A HEDGEHOG'S NATURAL HABI--
WHAT THE HECK IS HAPPENING TO ME?! FIRST, MY BEST FRIENDS BETRAY ME--
--NOW I KEEP SEEING VISIONS OF UNC!
IT'S GOT TO BE ANOTHER TRICK! I WON T LOOK!
GOTTA KEEP GOING ON!
VROOM
IF MY CALCULATIONS ARE RIGHT, I SHOULD COME UP NEAR THE HOT SPRING!

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™ in

reality BYTES™

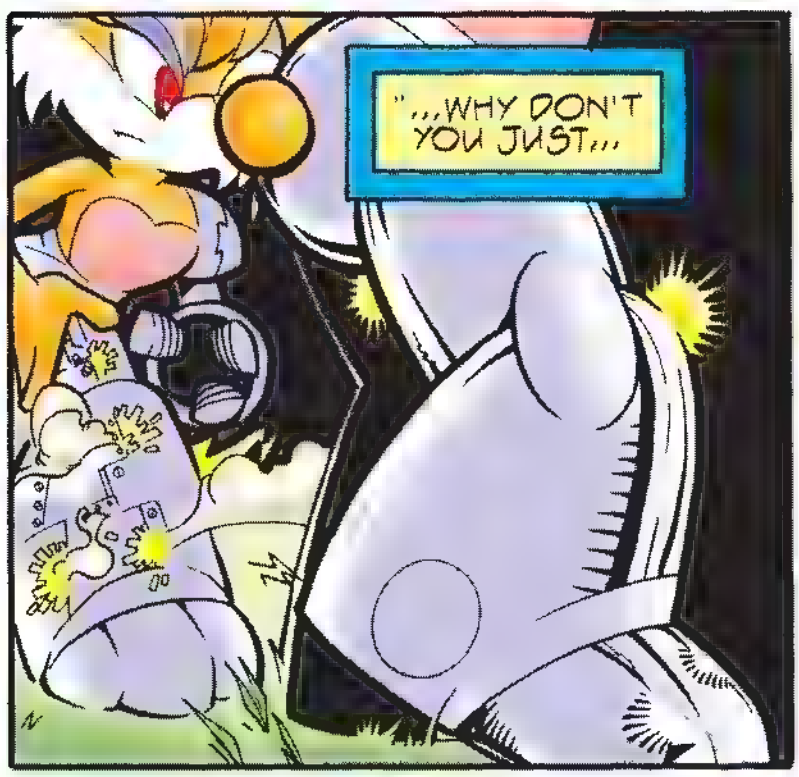
PART 3

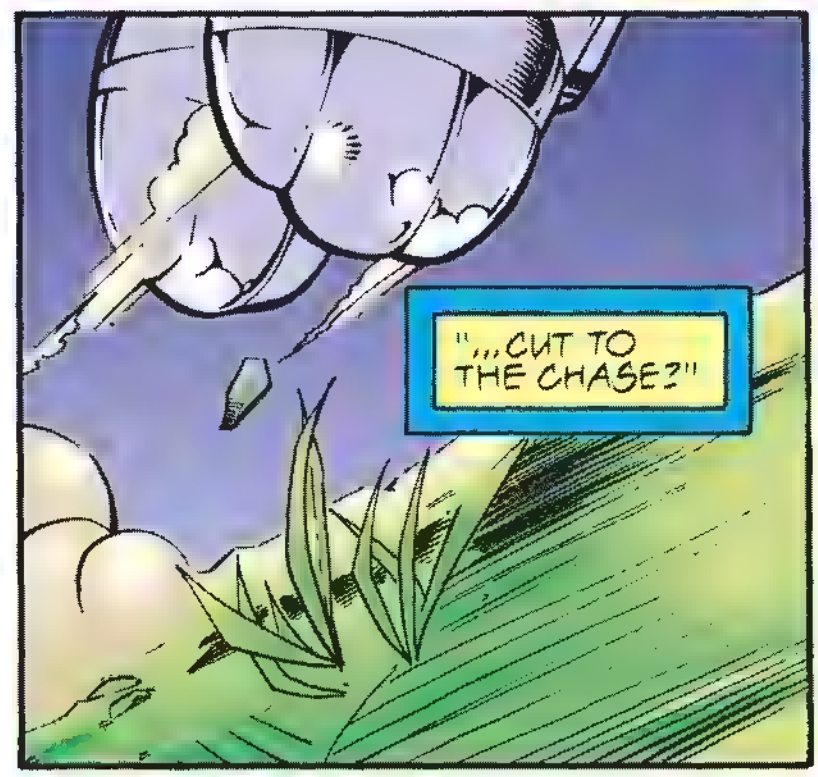
BUNNIE! ARE YOU OKAY? WHAT THE HECK HAPPENED TO YOUR LEG?

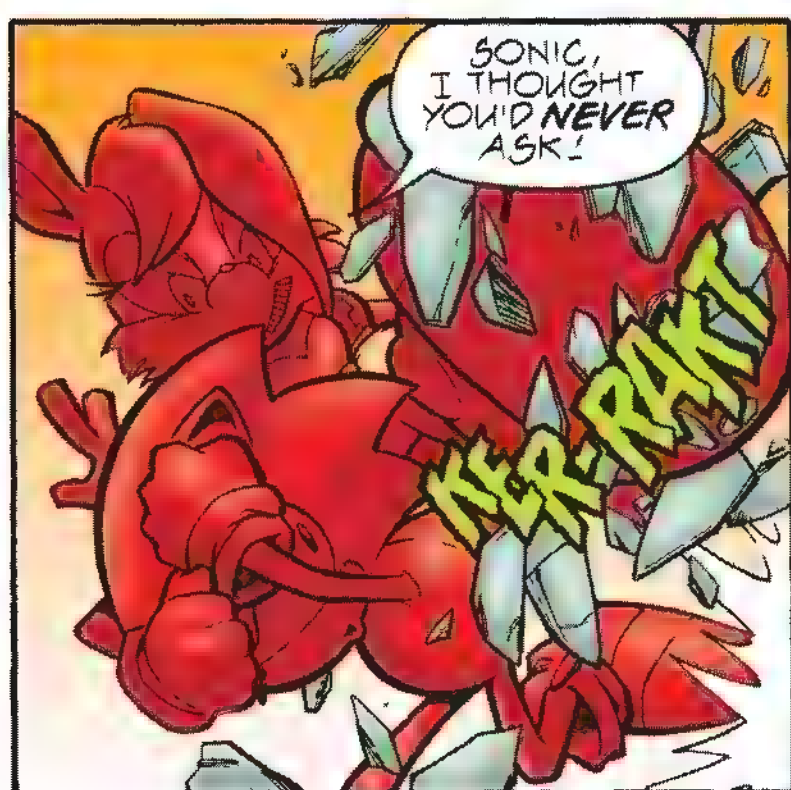
EVERYONE S GONE **SCREWY,** SONIC! THE PRINCESS! TAILS! EVEN YOUR UNCLE!

BUNNIE, IF YOU'RE REALLY NOT ON MY SIDE...

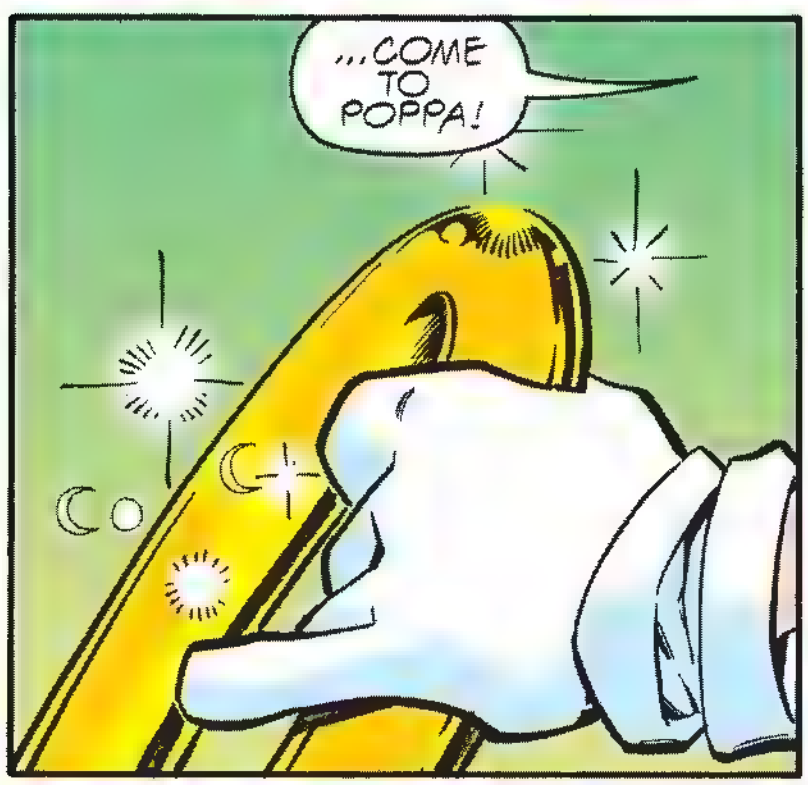
...AND PLAN ON GETTING THE JUMP ON ME...

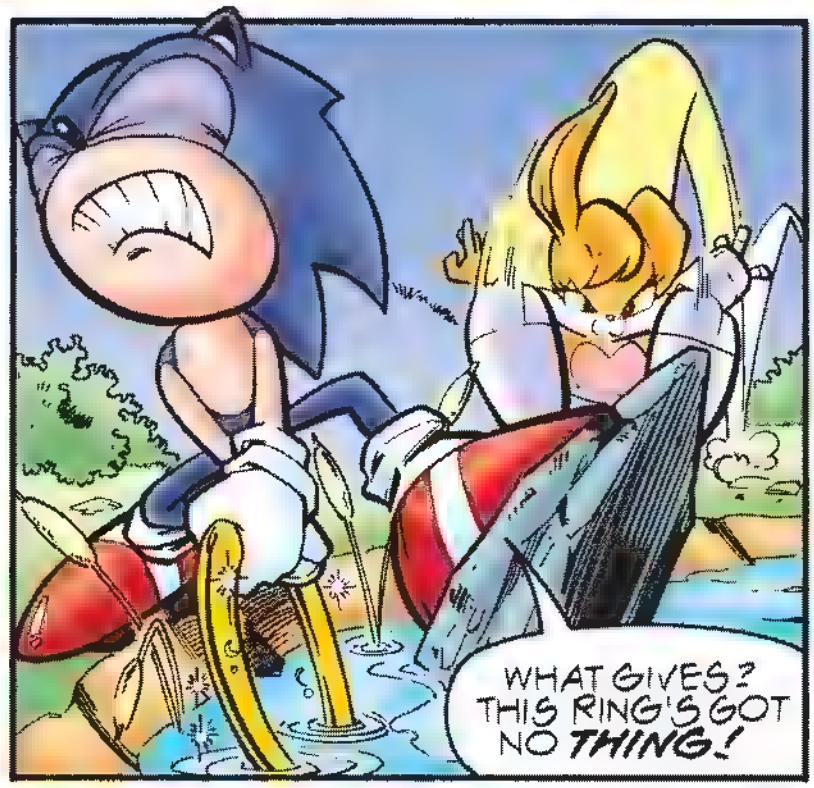

"...WHY DON'T YOU JUST...


"...CUT TO THE CHASE?"


SONIC, I THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER ASK!
KER-RAKT!

MONDO COOLNESS! A POWER RING...


...COME TO POPPA!


WHAT GIVES? THIS RING'S GOT NO THING!

THAT'S RIGHT, HEDGEHOG! AND THAT MEANS YOU'VE GOT NO--

ZIP

YOU GOT A RING FOR A STRAIGHT-JACKET!
--AND I'M GHOST!

MINUTES LATER...
FINALLY MADE IT! AT LAST! KNOTHOLE!
IT SEEMED LIKE EVERYONE AND THEIR ROBOT DUPLICATE HAS TRIED TO STOP ME FROM GETTING HERE! WELL, HERE GOES SOMETHIN'!
THE FLY DIP!

SWEET CURVE!
OH, GREAT! IT'S THAT FREAKY 'HOLO-CHUCK' AGAIN! I HOPE BUNNIE WAS LYING ABOUT THOSE LASER BEAMS, TOO!

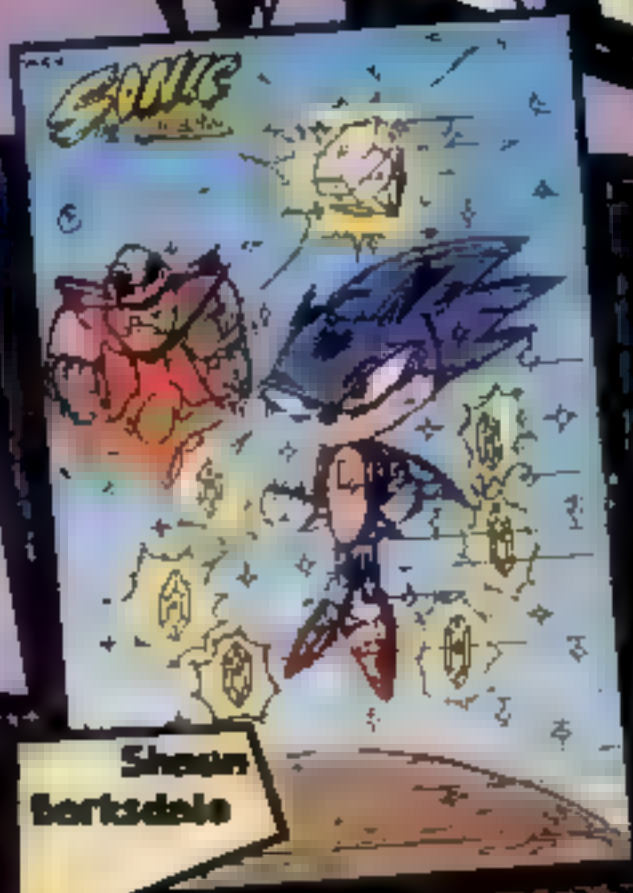
HIKASKE ON HUKENOX AM YOQUE!
HEY, SLOW DOWN! NO HABLA GIBBERISH!

HOLD UP A SEC! ARE YOU TRYING TO WARN ME ABOUT SOMETHING? IS THAT WHAT YOU'VE BEEN TRYING TO TELL ME?
KENEG NID TREMBO, SONIC!

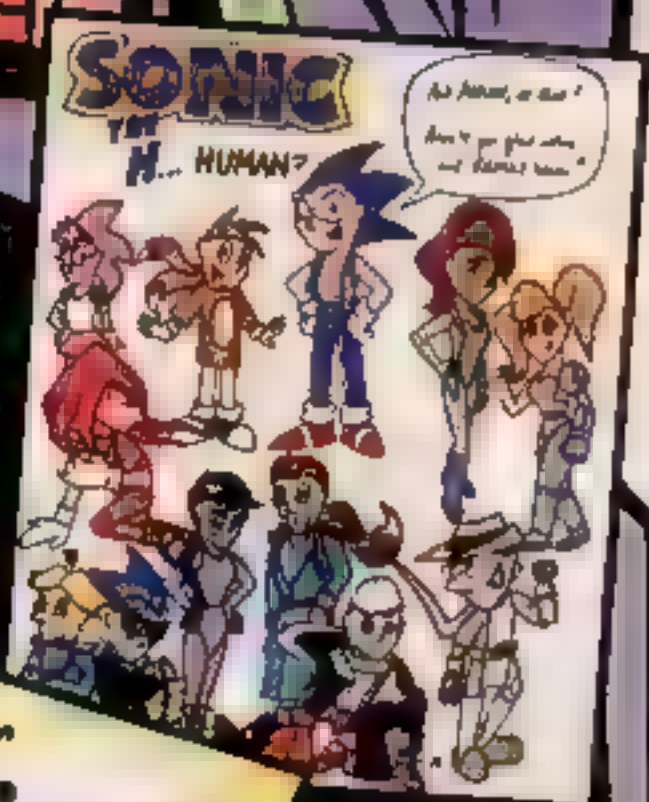
NOT TO GO TO KNOTHOLE? HUH? YOU SAID MY NAME!

FAN ART

SONIC



Shawn Bortsdale



Julie "Hysteria" Miyamoto
Johnson City, TN

Rachel Elizabeth Reagan
Pittsburg, CA
Age 11

Russell Leasby
Perth, Western Australia

IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR DRAWINGS PRINTED, PLEASE SEND A BLACK & WHITE COPY OF YOUR ART (NO ORIGINALS)

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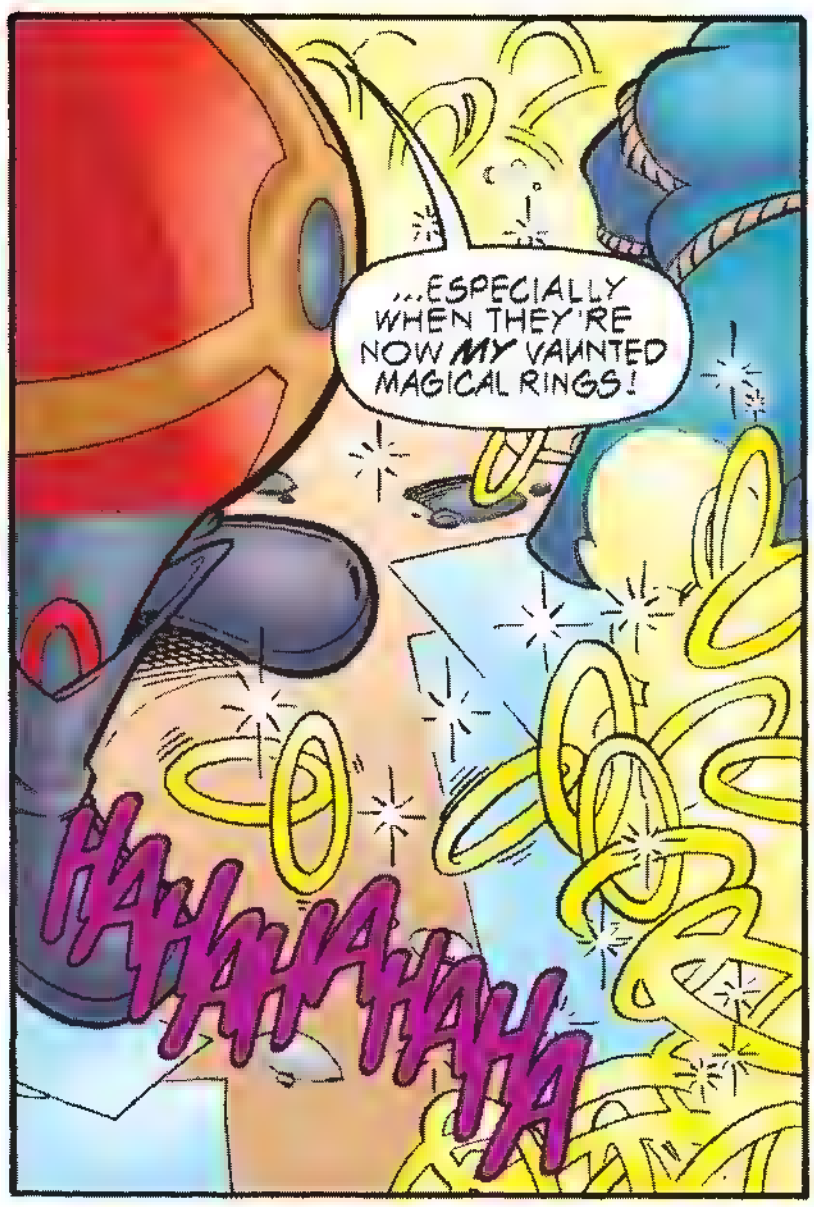
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™
in reality BYTES
PART 4
whoops apocalypse.

AH, SONIC! I'VE WAITED FOR THIS MOMENT A LONG TIME! I FINALLY HAVE KNOTHOLE...
...AND NOW I'VE CAPTURED YOU, AS WELL, DESPITE YOUR VALIANT EFFORTS! HOW DOES IT FEEL TO HAVE EGG ON YOUR FACE?

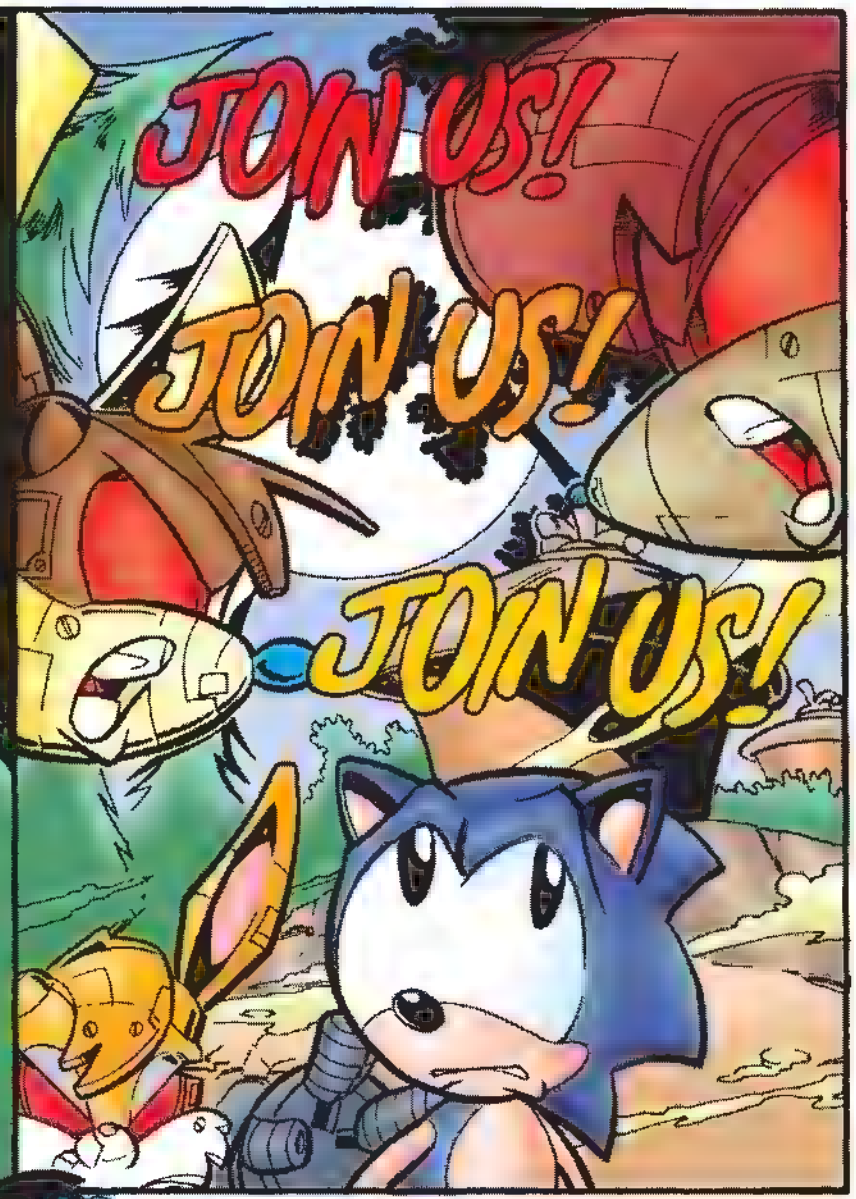
HAHAHAHAHAHAHA

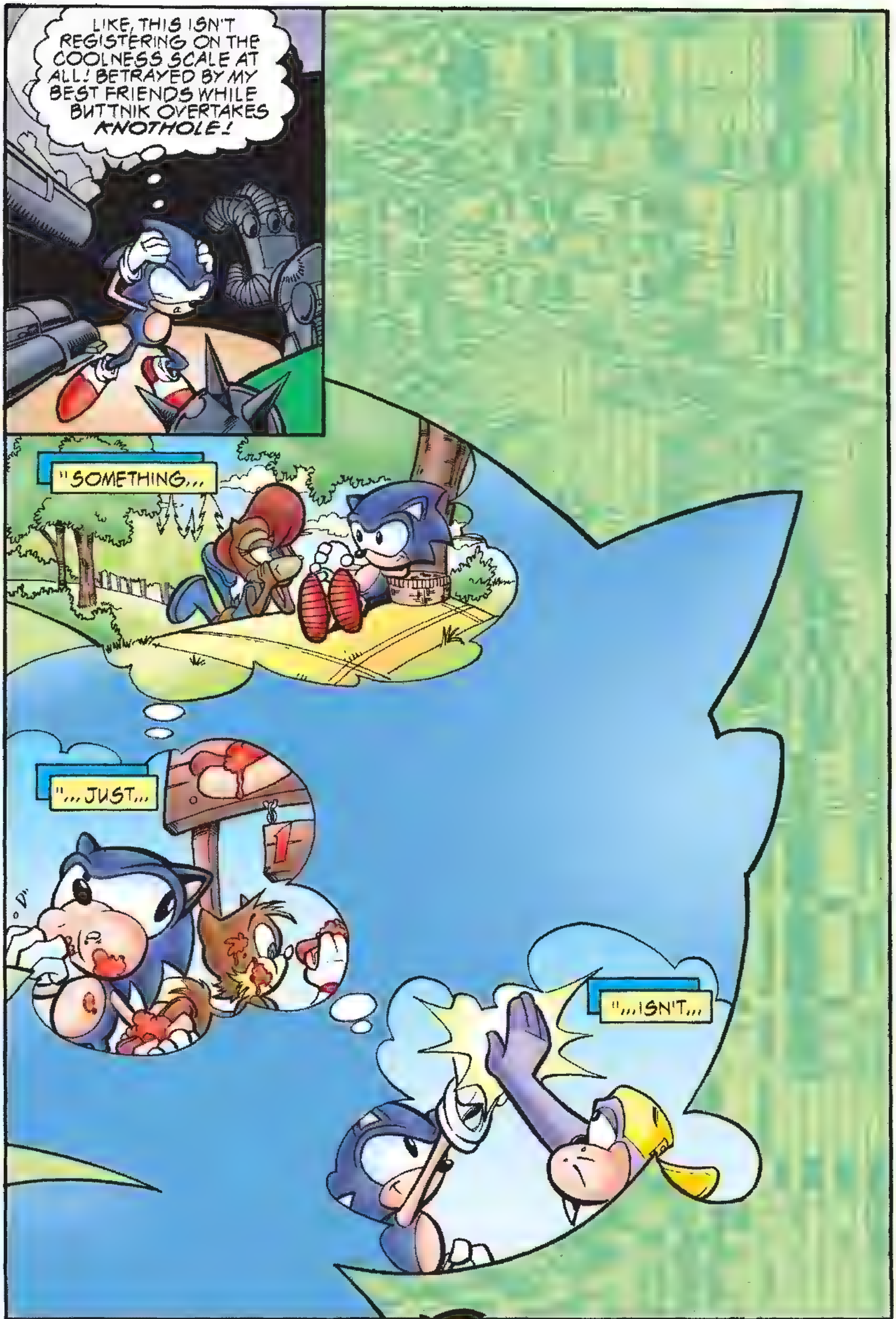
WHATEVER YOUR PLAN IS, BUTTNIK, IT WON'T WORK AND BAD PUNS WON'T HELP YOU EITHER!
IT SEEMS THAT OUR SPIKEY FRIEND ISN'T WILLING TO ACCEPT REALITY! I MEAN WHAT'S SO HARD TO SWALLOW?
"EVEN ALL OF YOUR FRIENDS HAVE SEEN THE LIGHT!"

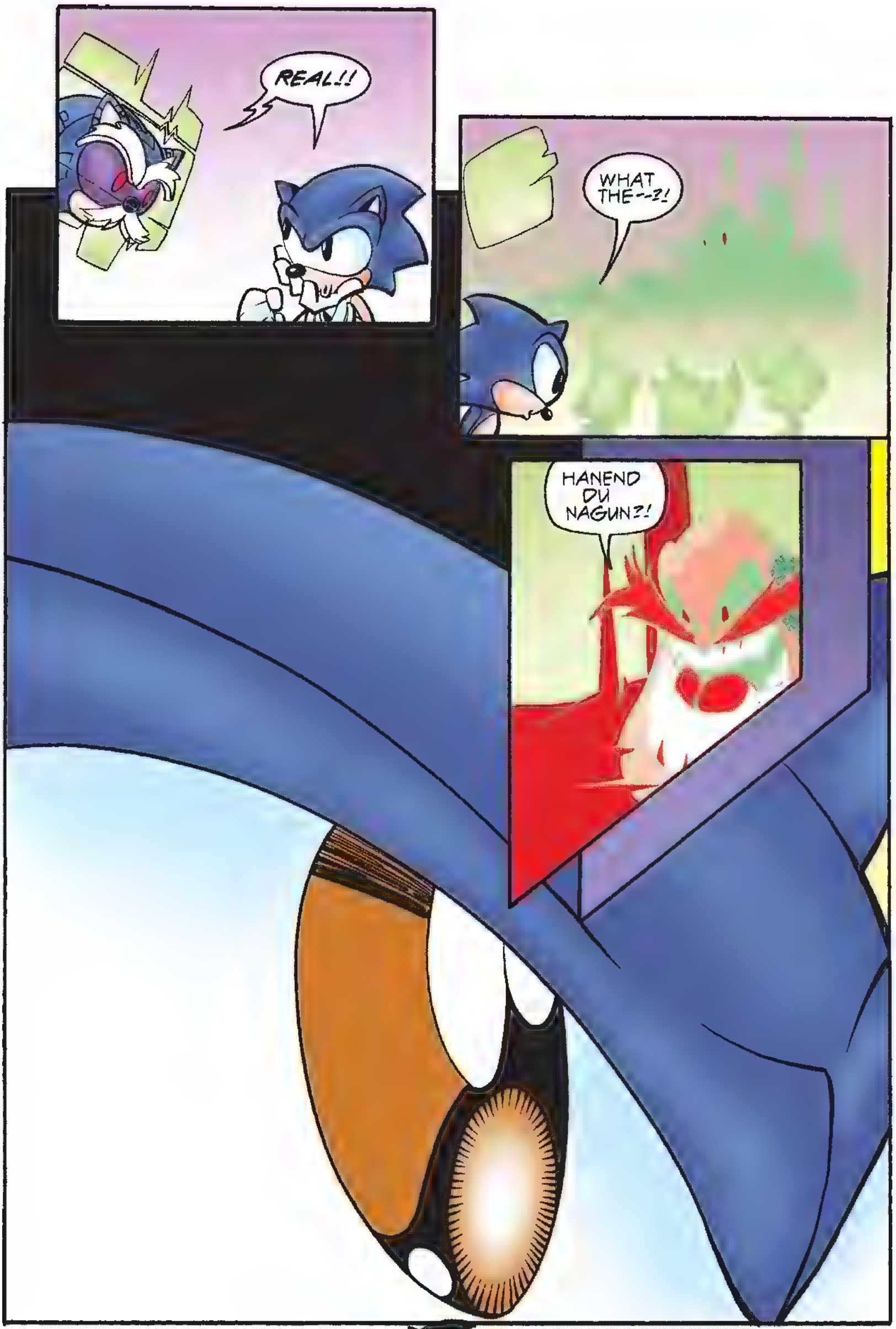
NOT EVEN YOUR VAUNTED MAGICAL RINGS CAN HELP YOU...

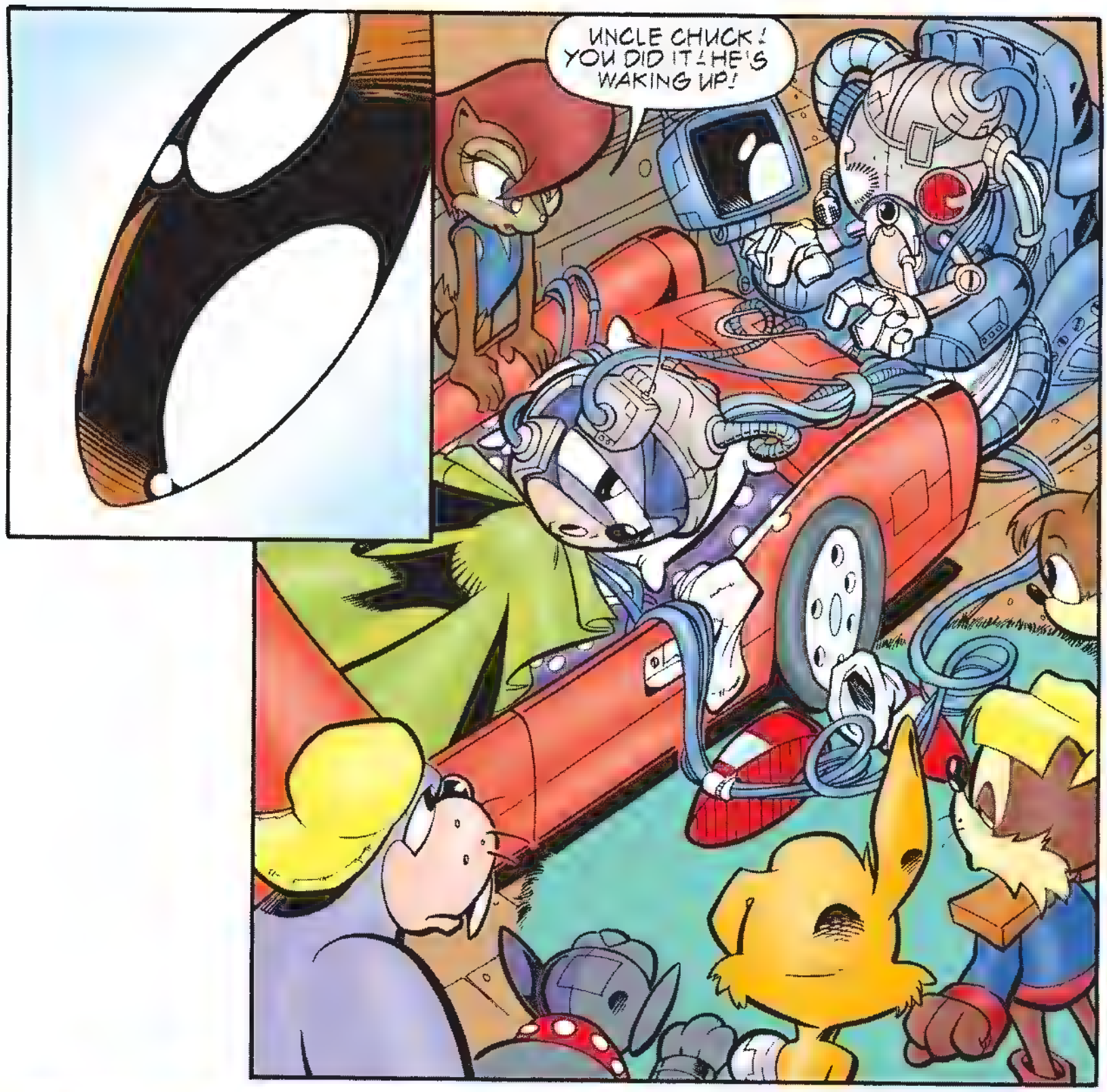

...ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY'RE NOW MY VAUNTED MAGICAL RINGS!
HAHAHAHA

FACE IT, SONIC! YOU'VE BEEN BEATEN FAIRLY AND SQUARELY! YOUR TEAM-MATES HAVE PLAYED YOU FOR A SAP! WHAT DO YOU SAY?
JOIN US!

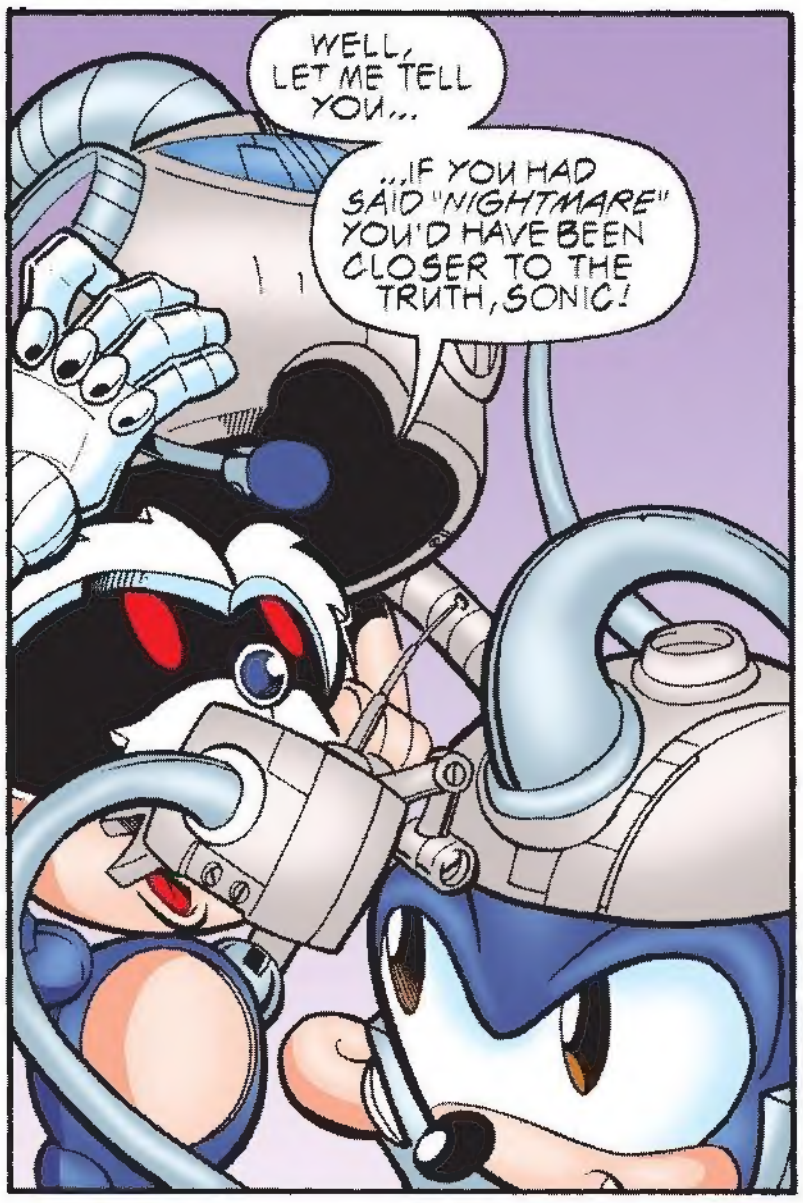

JOIN US!
JOIN US!
JOIN US!


LIKE, THIS ISN'T REGISTERING ON THE COOLNESS SCALE AT ALL! BETRAYED BY MY BEST FRIENDS WHILE BUTTNIK OVERTAKES KNOTHOLE!
"SOMETHING...
"...JUST...
"...ISN'T...


REAL!!
WHAT THE--?!
HANEND DU NAGUN?!


UNCLE CHUCK! YOU DID IT! HE'S WAKING UP!

WHOAH! I HAD THE WEIRDEST DREAM EVER AND YOU WERE ALL IN--
HEY, WHAT'S UP WITH THIS FUNKY CONTRAPTION?


WELL, LET ME TELL YOU...
...IF YOU HAD SAID "NIGHTMARE" YOU'D HAVE BEEN CLOSER TO THE TRUTH, SONIC!

IT SEEMS THAT YOUR AWARD WAS BOOBY-TRAPPED WITH AN ARTIFICIAL VIRUS THAT THREW INTO A VIRTUAL-REALITY NIGHTMARE WHILE YOU SLEPT!

Huh?
IT'S TRUE! AND FURTHERMORE, HAD YOU GIVEN INTO ROBOTNIK'S WISHES YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN TRAPPED IN VR FOREVER!
THE HOLOGRAPHIC IMAGE THAT YOU SAW WAS ME TRYING TO WARN YOU VIA THIS DEVICE I HASTILY WHIPPED UP!

IT'S GREAT TO HAVE YOU BACK, SONIC!
WE WERE VAIRY WORRIED ABOUT YOU!

BUT IF BUTTNIK *WASN'T* BEHIND THIS, THEN *WHO?*

WHAT'S NEXT? JOIN US IN **SONIC #52** BEFORE THE ACTION REALLY KICKS INTO HIGH GEAR IN **SONIC: BRAVE NEW WORLD!** THE RIDE HAS JUST STARTED!

SONIC GRAMS

J. Freddy Gabria
Editor

THIS JUST IN!

Lots of Sonic & Knuckles news so let's get right to it:

Tons of stuff is happening on **Mobius**. **Robotnik** is gone— who knows where? **Snively** is still at large. **Knothole** is in its own pocket zone three hours into the future. (The only way in and out is through the great oak slide.) All of Robotnik's sub-bosses are trying to hold on to the power over their land. Some of them want what Robotnik had: power over the entire planet of Mobius. You thought **The Freedom Fighters** had it tough while Robotnik was in charge? Like the man said, "You 'ain't' seen nothing, yet!"

KNUCKLES
THE ECHIDNA #6
ON SALE AUGUST 1997

Two great stories appear next month!

A dazzling continuation of ***"The Lost Paradise"*** *storyline that includes even more secrets beginning to unravel! **Knuckles** and his fellow echidnas are faced with a life and death situation that will have an effect on the future of **Echidnaopolis** no matter what happens! Written by **Ken Penders**. Art by **Manny Galan** and **Andrew Pepoy**.* ***KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #6 is on sale August '97!***

SONIC THE
HEDGEHOG #52
ON SALE AUGUST 1997

*Take a walk on the wild side with **Sonic** as he steps into a zone that must be seen for yourself. Written by **Tom Roiston**. Art by **Manny Galan** and **Jim Amash**. Also meet some of the other **Freedom Fighters of Mobius** in this bonus story by **Karl Bollers** with art by **Art Mawhinney** and **Jim Amash**.* ***SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #52 is on sale August '97!***

The first in a series of quarterly specials!

*This one has it all, fans. The Freedom Fighters travel into **Robotropolis** to assess the amount of damage done to their former city of **Mobotropolis**. But what kind of surprises await them? And are they friendly or deadly? Also, witness Sonic meet — oh, uh,ahhh — that would be telling.* ***All we can say is that no Sonic fan would want to miss this issue!*** *Story and art by **Ken Penders**.* ***SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #1: A BRAVE NEW WORLD is on sale September '97!***

SONIC SUPER
SPECIAL #1
A BRAVE NEW WORLD
ON SALE SEPTEMBER 1997

SEND LETTERS TO:
SONIC-GRAMS #51
C/O ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.
P.O. BOX 419
MAMARONECK, NY 10543-0419
e-mail address: SonicNotes@ aol.com

Because of limited space, the editors cannot guarantee that all correspondence will be published and reserve the right to edit excerpts as they see fit.

Sonic's back on the letters page scene! Missed me? I know Antoine, Tails and Bunnie took care of you while I was -ahem- away, but "there ain't nothing like the real thing, baby!" So let's get this show on the road...

Dear Sonic,

You are cool!

Edmund Murphy (Age 4)
Orlando, FL

So are you, Edmund!

Dear Sonic- Grams,

Way to go on issue #44! Way cool idea for the Sunken Island, Marinopolis! Can't wait for Knuckles series to get under way! Sally and Tails should have been so lucky. Anyway, you've got me excited and concerned for issue #50. Excited in the fact that this is sure to be the biggest and best Sonic story to date. Concerned that it may be the last! (I don't like the way "End Game" sounds.) Please pay my compliments to Spaz. He really drew Sonic with a homage to his japanese origins under the [illegible] and the great Tuji Naka.

Sonic-cerely,
Green Gibbon

The Green Gibbon, eh? Now that's original. As you can see, #50 was not the last Sonic story, but I think it was one of the biggest and best. Of course, we're just getting warmed up. Stick around, Mr. Gibbon (may I call you Green?), as future issues keep you as concerned and excited as last issue did.

Dear Sonic The Hedgehog,

I've just read SONIC #44! It was cool! At first I thought the "evil" Sonic and Knuckles were just Robotnik's robot duplicates. I'd like to see Tails do something exciting! And I think you and Knuckles should fight more often. You always beat him with that "figure 8" move.

Godwin Park (Age 12)
Los Angeles, CA

Thanks there, Godwin. The next letter is about the SONIC LIVE! Special #1...

Dear Sonic Live!,

Whoa, was Sonic Live! #1 ever so cool! I loved it.Though I thought Sonic would have been sucked into our dimension instead of Steve and Jessie into Sonic's. I hope you plan to make a sequel. It's about time Larry Lion and Cyril made another appearance. Now all you need to do is get Al and Cal in a story as well. Knuckles Quest 2 was my favorite, mostly because it was drawn by Pat Spuzzillo himself. Until next time...

Kathleen B. Najera
Lakewood, CA

Larry and Cyril are cool, aren't they? You'll be surprised to know that plans are already in the works for the return of Al and Cal (from SONIC #2) later this year. Though I got to tell you, you've never seen Al and Cal this way before. Read future Sonic-Grams for more details as they come.

Dear Sonic,

My name is Jessica and I live in Guam. In issue #44, I like it when "evil" Sonic says "Get out of my way, y'geek!" and then kicks the Swatbot. And now three questions: 1) What's Robotnik made out of? 2) Why is that road in the sky? 3) What thing did Robotnik use to roboticize you? (I don't have #39 yet) Did you know I call Robotnik "Ro-butt-nik," too? On your great video game "Sonic 2," I could get to the last level! About that Ultra Sonic trick, could you teach me that? Ha! Just kidding! Well, I'll be seeing you!

Jessica Tanguay
tanguay@lowtos.guam.net

What's Robotnik made out of? Hmmm. Never thought about that. What are you made out of? 2) The road in the sky isn't a road and that's not a sky, it's the Cosmic Interstate. It takes you into all the different Sonic realities. However, it doesn't take you into different zones. 3) Robotnik used his patented roboticizer on me. It wasn't pretty.

The following is an excerpt from a Sonic internet-chat in which Juan F. Lara said:

"Hmm. I wonder if END GAME will feature a "Sleeping Beauty" type scenario, with Sally falling under an indefinite sleeping spell. That way she won't REALLY be dead, but she'll be out of the way."

Juan was the first one who guessed right. Doctor Quack kept Sally in that "sleeping spell" condition, not only so Sally could heal properly, but also to convince Robotnik that she did die just the way he planned it. Unfortunately, everyone else was just as convinced. Her "spell" was broken by a kiss from her true love. Take a bow, Juan.

See you in thirty!